IN THE CLAIMS

1. to 20. (cancelled).

21. (new) An artificial disc for positioning between two adjacent vertebrae, the artificial disc comprising;

a first outwardly facing surface and a second outwardly facing surface, each of said outwardly facing surfaces adapted for engaging a surface of a vertebral body, at least one of said first outwardly facing surface and said second outwardly facing surface including a raised portion having a plurality of discrete plateaus, said plurality of discrete plateaus adapted for frictionally engaging the surface of the vertebral body.

22. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 21, wherein both of said outwardly facing surfaces include a raised portion having a plurality of discrete plateaus.

23. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 21, wherein said raised portion is at least partially surrounded by a planar surface included on said outwardly facing surface.

24. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 22, wherein said raised portion is substantial centered on said outwardly facing surface.

25. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 23, wherein said plurality of plateaus a first plateau and a second plateau overlaying said first plateau, each of said first and second plateaus having a length dimension and a width dimension, said length dimension and said width dimension of said first

plateau being greater than said length dimension and said width dimension of said second plateau, respectively.

26. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 25, wherein said plurality of plateaus include a third plateau overlaying said second plateau, said third plateau having a length dimension and a width dimension, said length dimension and said width dimension of said second plateau being greater than said length dimension and said width dimension of said third plateau, respectively.

27. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 21, wherein said first outwardly facing surface is movable relative to said second outwardly facing surface.

28. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 21, wherein said plurality of discrete plateaus of said raised portion, each have a geometric shape.

29. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 28, wherein said geometric shape is oval.

30. (new) An artificial disc for positioning between adjacent vertebrae, said artificial disc comprising:

a first baseplate having an outwardly facing surface and an inwardly facing surface, said outwardly facing surface including a raised portion having a plurality of discrete plateaus, said raised portion adapted for frictionally engaging vertebra;

a second baseplate having an outwardly facing surface and inwardly facing surface, said second baseplate being positioned adjacent said first baseplate such that said inwardly

facing surface of said first baseplate confronts said inwardly facing surface of said second baseplate; and

an engagement means adapted for connecting said first baseplate to said second baseplate, said engagement means permitting angulation and rotation of said first baseplate relative to said second baseplate.

31. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 30, wherein said outwardly facing surface of said second baseplate includes a raised portion having a plurality of discrete plateaus, said raised portion adapted for frictionally engaging a vertebra.

32. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 30, wherein said outwardly facing surface of said first baseplate includes a planar surface extending at least partially about said raised portion.

33. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 30, wherein said plurality of discrete plateaus of said raised portion, each have a geometric shape, said geometric shape being the same for all of said plateaus.

34. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 33, wherein said geometric shape is oval.

35. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 30, wherein said plurality of discrete plateaus include a first plateau and a second plateau overlaying said first plateau, each of said first and second plateaus having a length dimension and a width dimension, said length dimension and said width dimension of said first plateau being greater than said length

dimension and said width dimension of said second plateau, respectively.

36. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 35, wherein said plurality of plateaus include a third plateau overlaying said second plateau, said third plateau having a length dimension and a width dimension, said length dimension and said width dimension of said second plateau being greater than said length dimension and said width dimension of said third plateau, respectively.

37. (new) The artificial disc according to claim 30, wherein said raised portion is substantial centered on said outwardly facing surface.